

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Control: 11516 ✓
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FROM: MOSCOW

TO: Secretary of State

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NOTE 81/OSA RECEIVED FROM FONOFF TODAY BY MESSENGER HAS
FOLLOWING TEXT:

"HAVING ACQUAINTED ITSELF WITH THE NOTE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE USA OF OCTOBER 22 OF THIS YEAR ANSWERING THE NOTE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE USSR OF OCTOBER 13 ON THE QUESTION OF THE LAUNCHING OF AMERICAN BALLOONS INTO THE AIRSPACE OF THE SOVIET UNION, THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS IT NECESSARY TO STATE THE FOLLOWING.

IN THE NOTE OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT OF OCTOBER 13 IT WAS CLEARLY SAID THAT AN ACQUAINTANCE WITH THE CHARACTER OF THE APPARATUS SUSPENDED FROM THE AMERICAN BALLOONS CAUGHT IN THE AIRSPACE OF THE SOVIET UNION WHOLLY REFUTES THE ASSERTIONS OF THE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES TO THE EFFECT THAT THE LAUNCHING OF THESE SPHERES IS ALLEGEDLY BEING CARRIED ON FOR SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES. THE CHARACTER OF THE APPARATUS OF THE SAID AMERICAN SPHERES, THE PROGRAMMATIC MECHANISM OF CONTROL (PROGRAMNOYE USTROISTVO UPRAVLENIYA) OF THE APPARATUS, THE FILM WITH PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE TERRITORY OF THE USSR DISCOVERED ON THE SPHERES CAUGHT, ETC. - ALL THIS INCONTESTABLY PROVES THAT THE BALLOONS IN QUESTION ARE NOT ALL INTENDED FOR SCIENTIFIC, BUT FOR MILITARY PURPOSES - FOR CONDUCTING AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE. AS ALREADY POINTED OUT, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SOVIET AND FOREIGN PRESS HAVE PERSONALLY HAD THE OPPORTUNITY OF CONVINCING THEMSELVES OF THIS DURING THE INSPECTION OF THE APPARATUS OF THE AMERICAN BALLOONS WHICH WAS SHOWN AT A PRESS CONFERENCE IN MOSCOW ON OCTOBER 11 OF THIS YEAR.

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-2- 1125, NOVEMBER 20, 7 PM FROM MOSCOW

IN THE LIGHT OF THESE ESTABLISHED FACTS THE STUBBORN EFFORT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE USA TO CREATE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE MATTER IN ALL ONLY CONCERNS A POSSIBLE DROPPING INTO SOVIET AIRSPACE OF SOME KIND OF INOFFENSIVE METEOROLOGICAL SPHERES EQUIPPED "WITH SCIENTIFIC REGISTRATION APPARATUS" CANNOT BE REGARDED AS OTHER THAN AN ATTEMPT TO JUSTIFY THE INADMISSIBLE ACTIVITIES OF AMERICAN MILITARY AUTHORITIES AND TO RELIEVE ITSELF OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR A GROSS VIOLATION OF THE AIRSPACE OF THE SOVIET UNION.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING, THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT CONFIRMS ITS NOTE OF OCTOBER 13 AND EXPECTS THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE USA, AS IT STATED IN ITS NOTE OF FEBRUARY 8, 1956 TO THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT, WILL TAKE MEASURES WITHOUT DELAY TO PREVENT THE LAUNCHING OF AMERICAN SPHERES INTO THE AIRSPACE OF THE SOVIET UNION IN THE FUTURE.

MOSCOW, NOVEMBER 20, 1958."

MESSAGE UNSIGNED

PK

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